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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/040,603	01/07/2002	Rakesh Bhakta	25814-406990	6079
27717	7590	11/06/2007		
SEYFARTH SHAW LLP 131 S. DEARBORN ST., SUITE2400 CHICAGO, IL 60603-5803			EXAMINER HOFFMAN, BRANDON S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2136	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			11/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/040,603	BHAKTA, RAKESH	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Brandon S. Hoffman	2136	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2007.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 27-32 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-32 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 27-32 are pending in this office action.
2. Applicant's arguments, filed September 9, 2007, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim Rejections

3. The text of those sections of title 35, U.S. Code not included in this rejection can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. Claims 27-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Bradford et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,612,928).

Regarding claims 27 and 30, Bradford teaches a gaming device/method comprising:

- A gaming terminal, configured for playing at least a first game (fig. 16, col. 10, lines 21-22, and col. 33, lines 51-65);
- **A data storage device for carrying by a game player** (col. 32, lines 28-32);
- **Said data storage device containing biometric data of the game player** (col. 32, lines 8-35);

- A reader for receiving data from **said** data storage device carried by a game player (fig. 1, ref. num 104, col. 10 lines 36-40, and col. 32, lines 26-32);
- A button for pressing by a game player as a part of said game (fig. 16, ref. num 1604, col. 10, line 29, and col. 33, lines 51-65);
- A biometric device for measuring biometric data of the game player by sensing said biometric data directly through said button as it is pressed by the game player (fig. 16, ref. num 1606/1608/1626, col. 33, lines 27-29, and col. 34, lines 21-29);
- Said terminal carrying a comparator for comparing the parameters of the game player's biometric data **sensed through the button** with parameters obtained from **biometric** data received from said data storage device carried by the game player, for player identification (col. 32, lines 26-32 and col. 35, lines 4-13).

Regarding claims 28 and 31, Bradford teaches in which the data storage device is a smart card, comprising a microprocessor (col. 5, lines 36-53 and col. 9, lines 49-56).

Regarding claims 29 and 32, Bradford teaches in which the biometric data is the game player's fingerprint (col. 32, lines 42-46).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant argues that Bradford et al. does not teach that the smart card or voucher ID carried by the player contains the biometric data that is used to compare against the players supplied biometric data obtained through pressing the PLAY button the gaming machine (page 5).

Regarding applicant's arguments, examiner disagrees with applicant. Bradford teaches, at column 32, lines 8-49, that an AALA account (anonymous legal age account) is created for the player. This consists of the player showing their ID (license) to a person at the counter. The person at the counter confirms the ID belongs to the player (col. 32, lines 8-25). Once the ID is confirmed, the player supplies a biometric sample and the system correlates the supplied biometric with an APID (anonymous Player ID). The APID is generated and given to the player in the form of a voucher ID (col. 32, lines 26-35). The voucher ID is inserted into the gaming device by the player. The voucher ID is linked to the casino's system of stored biometrics. The player then puts their finger on the fingerprint reader. The gaming device then compares the supplied fingerprint to the data stored on the casino's biometric storage, wherein the biometric storage is referenced by the voucher ID, which the player carries and inserts into the gaming machine (col. 35, lines 2-13).

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brandon S. Hoffman whose telephone number is 571-272-3863. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser G. Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Art Unit: 2136

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brandon Hoffman/

BH

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11/2107